

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

- 1.-15. (Canceled)
16. (Previously Presented) An optical waveguide, comprising:  
a convex member provided on a substrate; and  
an optical waveguide member provided solely on the convex member,  
the convex member having a lower refractive index than the optical waveguide member,  
a maximum width of maximum cross-section of the optical waveguide member being longer than a width of a lower surface of the optical waveguide member.
17. (Canceled)
18. (Previously Presented) The optical waveguide according to claim 16,  
a covering layer being formed around the optical waveguide, and the refractive index of the convex member and the refractive index of the covering layer are approximately equal.
19. (Previously Presented) The optical waveguide according to claim 16,  
the convex member being integrally formed with the substrate.
20. (Previously Presented) The optical waveguide according to claim 16,  
a cross-section of the optical waveguide member being in the shape of a truncated circle or a truncated oval.
21. (Previously Presented) The optical waveguide according to claim 16,  
a cross-section of the optical waveguide member being in the shape of a circle or an oval.
22. (Previously Presented) The optical waveguide according to claim 16,

an upper surface of the convex member being a curved surface.

23. (Previously Presented) The optical waveguide according to claims 16,  
an angle made between an upper surface of the convex member and a surface  
that contacts the upper surface on a side part of the convex member being acute.

24. (Previously Presented) The optical waveguide according to claim 16,  
an upper part of the convex member being formed in an inversely tapered  
shape.

25. (Previously Presented) The optical waveguide according to claim 16,  
the optical waveguide being buried under a layer with a lower refractive index  
than the optical waveguide member.

26. (Currently Amended) An optical waveguide, comprising:  
a first convex member provided on a substrate;  
an optical waveguide member provided solely on an upper surface of the first  
convex member;

a second convex member provided on the substrate, the second convex  
member being disposed in parallel with the first convex member; and

a covering layer that covers an optical waveguide member and is provided in  
part on an upper surface of the second convex ~~member-member~~.

the optical waveguide including two of the second convex members and the  
first convex member being disposed between the two second convex members.

27. (Canceled).

28. (Original) A circuit board, comprising:  
the optical waveguide according to claim 16;  
an IC; and  
an optical element.

29. (Original) An optical module, comprising:  
the optical waveguide according to claim 16.
30. (Original) An optical transfer apparatus, comprising:  
the optical module according to claim 29.
31. (Previously Presented) An optical waveguide, comprising:  
a convex member provided on a substrate; and  
an entire optical waveguide member provided solely on the convex member,  
the convex member being disposed in parallel with the optical waveguide  
member,  
a maximum width of maximum cross-section of the optical waveguide  
member being longer than a width of a lower surface of the optical waveguide member.